

# IN THE BEGINNING



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July, 1980

*Lester A. Harding, Editor*

### Editor's Notes —

In the April, 1980, issue we mentioned that we had to go back to the printer's after more of the January issue above the 500 we usually get. Well, the same thing happened with the April, 1980 issue. We ran out of this issue as we did the one before it.

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The Woodson County Historical Museum has been a very busy place, this spring as the 5th grade pupils of the Yates Center Elementary School toured the Museum. There were 35 pupils and two teachers. Also 42 pupils and two teachers of the sixth grade of the Yates Center school.

There were 12 students and their teacher of the 7th grade Woodworking Class, followed by 40 pupils and two teachers of the second grade also toured Museum and Log Cabin. Earlier there were a den of Cub Scouts and their leader made the tour.

\* \* \* \* \*

The Museum was opened to start the 1980 season over the Memorial Day weekend of May 24, 25, 26. It will be open on Friday, Saturday and Sunday afternoons from 1:30 till 5 p.m.

\* \* \* \* \*

The cover picture is of the Johnson Bros. Furniture and Undertaking Store. The front of this building has changed very little except that a porch or canopy now covers over the door and two lower windows. It is located on the west side of the square between Steiners Sundries and the Hairbenders. This picture was taken possibly around 1900, give two or three years either way.

Swan Johnson and his brother Peter operated the store together for some time. They were a well-known and well liked Swedish brothers. Frank Johnson is the only relative of these brothers left in Woodson County.

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## **WOODSON COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY**

### **Organized March, 1965**

The March dinner meeting of the Woodson County Historical Society was held at the Woodson House on Tuesday evening, January 25, 1980 with 34 present for the dinner. W. Kenneth Stockebrand and Charles Hart had charge of the program. They represented the two farm organizations of the county, the Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service, and the Soil Conservation Service.

\* \* \* \* \*

The Administration Board of the Woodson County Historical Society met at the County Museum on the afternoon of February 24, 1980, with 8 of the 10 members present. The main object of the meeting was to see about obtaining a Museum Director or Curator. Dorothy Kimbell who had been the Curator since the Museum had started over eleven years and had turned in her resignation. Mrs. Opal Wagner, a retired school teacher of Yates Center consented to give it a try.

\* \* \* \* \*

The membership for the Historical Society for 1980 seems to be dragging behind at present.

\* \* \* \* \*

A Memorial Program was held at the May 20th meeting of the Woodson County Historical, at 7 o'clock on Tuesday evening, at the Woodson House. Memorial services were held for Historical Society members: King Aitkins, Tom Smith, Sr., Grace Downey, George McKinsey, and Ethel Mae Weide.

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A vocal solo was given by Elaine Horsch, accompanied by Lorraine Opperman. With the group joining with the chorus. The Memorial Program Committee were Avis Ireland, Marie Ross and Lettie Streator, assisted by Rev. Bob Seals, pastor of the Christian Church and his wife Opal.

\* \* \* \* \*

There were 36 present for the fine dinner served smorgasbord style, in the east room of the Woodson House and to the west room for the program.

Join and Support the  
Woodson County Historical Society

Life Membership \$25.00

Regular Membership \$2.00 Year

## BISCUIT MOUND —

In the northeast corner of Section 24, Twp. 25, Range 13, is a fairly large mound or hill called Biscuit Mound. The name is derive by the shape of the mound, that slopes to the north across the road and to the south bank of the east branch of Brazil Creek in section 13.



Picture of Biscuit Mound taken from over a half mile to the east. The slope of the mound is almost a quarter mile from the top to the creek. One of the oddities of Biscuit Mound is that a conglomeration of fossils are to be found, not only around the mound but on the top as well. Crinoids, called sea lillies, along with various kinds of marine fossils are mixed together on the top, indicating that this mound was at one time under water, when this part of Kansas was a part of a vast sea, going back as far as Pennsylvania. Geographically the high point of Biscuit Mound is 1080 feet above sea level.

Besides the sea lillies, rocks molded together contain brachiopods, pelecypods that is a bi-valved mollusk and other. The mollusk fossil resembles an oyster, clam and mussell shells.

To the north of this mound on the top of another hill, fossil shells resembling the oyster shell can be found on top of a limestone ledge. This latter hill is one mile north of Biscuit Mound and just ten miles due west of Yates Center.

The lighter shaded part on the east side of the mound is where the soil has been eroded and fossils can be found there, but the most of them can be found on the top.

## THE ASA W. MILLER FAMILY

Asa Whitney Miller was born on the homestead of his parents, Joseph and Elizabeth Stines Miller, on October 28, 1865. This was in the southwest quarter of the northwest quarter of Section 14, Twp. 24, Range 14. The homestead was about a half mile south of Turkey Creek.

The Miller family had come to Anderson County, Kansas in 1859, and in the spring of 1860, Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Miller and seven children with ox teams and wagons came to Woodson County, moving into a small log cabin on the above location. John Paupenhause, who had come to this part of Turkey Creek around 1858, and had built this log cabin. In the winter of 1859, Paupenhause had died and buried just to the west of the cabin. It is thought that Asa Miller was born in this cabin.

Asa started to school in the month that he was six years old in the log schoolhouse, District No. 2, that was less than a mile to the southeast of the Askren Cemetery and a little over a mile down the creek from the Joseph Miller home. Asa Miller, all of his children and several of his grandchildren attended the Askren School Dist. No. 2.

On April 3, 1889, at Gridley, Asa W. Miller and Miss Anna J. Cope were married. They started housekeeping on a part of the Miller homestead, a short distance north of Turkey Creek, along the east side of a deep ravine, directly across the road from what is now the Don Edwards home.

They later purchased the 40 acres to the north of there, from James Morgan, the northwest 40 acres in the southwest quarter of section 11, Twp. 24, Range 14. Here the Millers built a large two story house and other buildings making it into a well improved farm.

Around 1900, Asa Miller with his cousin Grant Stines started pasturing cattle for other people. Quite a few of these bluestem pastures were still unfenced. They began to ship cattle in from other places. It was about this same time that Ed Kimbell started in the cattle business. Miller and Kimbell became partners of a sort in handling cattle.

\* \* \* \* \*

Asa and Anna Miller were the parents of six children Melvin M., Loretta M., Elmer T., Margaret C., Thelma A., and Clifford E., all spending their life on the home place until they were married and made homes of their own.

Melvin and Elmer growing up in the cattle business with their father.



### **Asa W. and Anna Cope Miller**

\* \* \* \* \*

Melvin Mansfield Miller was born November 18, 1890. On May 9, 1922, he was married to Miss Fannie McCormick. Fannie taught several terms in the rural schools in Woodson County. They were the parents of three children, Alvin, Bernice and Norman.

Loretta May was born Nov. 3, 1894. She was married to Wm. P. Peters. They lived on different farms in North township. "Bill" Peters was for several years in the cattle business with his brother-in-law, Elmer T. Miller. They would handle several hundred head of cattle on pasture each summer. They had one daughter Verna May.

Elmer Theodore was born, Oct. 26, 1900. On September 18, 1923, he was married to Nellie Magathen. They lived for many years on farms in North township. They were the parents of two children; Marjorie Ellen and Asa Edward, the latter dying when just nine months old.

Margaret Christina, was born in 1907. She was married to Alvin 'Bun' Underwood. They lived on farms in northwest part of the county until around 1942. They were the parents of two daughters, Marjorie and Luetta.

Thelma A. was born July 29, 1912. She was married March 25, 1931, to Eugene 'Bud' Burns. They also lived the first part of their married life in North township until World War II. Bud spent 26 months in the U.S. Marine Corp. They were the parents of three daughters. Jean, Thelma, Lucille and Erma Laverne.



Clifford Miller was born on the home farm and lived with his mother until he was married to Miss Loretta Randolph. They were parents of three children, Patricia, Bill, and Asa C.



Pictured left to right are Charley Stotts, Ed Kimbell and Asa Miller. The picture was taken in Kansas City and probably sometime during the years that Kimbell and Miller were handling thousands of cattle together over the western part of Woodson and into Greenwood counties. We do not know whether Stotts had any connection with the cattle industry, but was quite a hay dealer around Yates Center. The cigar in his mouth was rather typical of Asa Miller at that time.

Cattle by the hundreds were shipped into Virgil and Batesville and located in the blue stem pastures over the area. Cattle would fatten well on this native grass and would be shipped out in the fall, some to market and some back to the owners. The largest part of these cattle came from the south and west, but mainly from Texas.

The largest number ever handled by the Miller-Kimbell ranches and their riders was in 1918. A total of 18,000 head of cattle were handled by these crews.

Hands working and staying at the Kimbell Ranch were Denny Rausch, Floyd, (Happy) Van Hoozer, Bill Toedman, Bill (Dilley) Gillette, Harvey Owens, Richard and Lewis, (Dick and Punk) Kimbell, Kenneth Kimbell, Grover Greer was the cook.

At the Miller farm there was Asa, Melvin and Elmer Miller and Hugh Campbell and possibly others.

\* \* \* \* \*

Asa Miller had started in the cattle business with his cousin Grant Stines around 1900.

Around 1910, the Millers received a shipment of around 2,000 head of cattle from Broger and Brown Cattle Co. of Texas. A young cowboy named Thaxton Parker came along with this group of cattle, and made his home with the Miller's during this grazing season. These were mostly longhorns. A part of this herd were Mexican cattle, their horns were not so long but narrow and sharp. This herd of Mexican cattle were put in the section to the north of where the old Oil Glen school stood on the north of the Winterscheid section.

At shipping out time in the fall these Mexican cattle created quite some trouble. So many of them would break away and go back to the pasture so after most were shipped out these strays were rounded up and attempt was made to drive them to market.

While driving a bunch to Virgil they stampeded. Hugh Campbell got inside of a pasture and attempted to head them off. By the time he would race a half mile he would come to a fence. Then by the time he could get through a gate or tear down the fence the cattle were ahead of him. He was riding over rocky ground. His little brown pony stepped on edge of a rock and slipped over it cutting the back side of its foot just above the hoof causing him to quit the chase. One of these cattle went right on through the town of Virgil and to the Verdigris River where it swam across and was finally caught west of the river.

One group of the cattle were driven towards Gridley. One of them got into a pasture southeast of Gridley, and in chasing it the steer went into a cornfield. It would run down a corn row, stop and lay down with its head stretched out on the ground



like a crippled prairie chicken. It was finally roped by Hugh Campbell and hauled to Gridley in a dray wagon. This one had two ropes on it when finally caught. Another got to the siding in railroad near Dunnaway northwest of Gridley. A couple of these cattle were never found.

Two sections of land along the Greenwood county line just to the west of the Dry Creek Cave at one time belonged to a man named Hanslip, from Osage City. For many years and perhaps is still called the Hanslip pasture.

Asa Miller rented this pasture several years. He would run about 300 head of cattle in this pasture that also belonged to Hanslip. Each spring and fall Hanslip would send his chuck wagon along with the cattle, having the camp places planned for each night, for the trip to and from Osage City. One drive it was 11:00 o'clock before they reached the stockyards at Strawn.

\* \* \* \* \*

Back in the days of the first threshing machings, Asa Miller and Grant Stines purchased a horse power threshing machine. Six teams or twelve horses or mules were used as the power to operate this machine. It kept one man rather busy keeping these teams going in a circle around the power sweep that kept a turnbuckle operating the threshing machine. A platform was built over the power sweep about six or eight feet square. A man with a long whip kept the horses and mules going even.

At that time the wheat was all cut by binder and shocked out in the field. Then after it had gone through the "sweat" it would be hauled and stacked in a convinient place. Later the threshing machine would come into a community and a threshing crew would gather.

On the "hopper" end of the separator a divided platform was built with a man standing on the divided part. A boy or small man stood on the platform with a sharp knife and would cut the strings on the bundles as they were thrown on the platform. The other man would sweep the cut bundles into the machine, taking care that not too much would go in at one time.

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Asa Whitney Miller and wife Anna J., are both buried in the Askren Cemetery along with the parents of both of them, and several brothers and sisters.

## ELEVATION MARKER'S OVER WOODSON COUNTY —

It is interesting to study the various above sea-level marks over Woodson County and to point out the wide variety in these above sea-level marks.

The extreme northwest part of the county is the highest ranging from around 1120 feet to 1230 feet above sea-level. The highest points here are on the ridge dividing where the water sheds of the creeks going to the Neosho River to the east and the one going to the Verdigris River to the west.

There is a drop of 343, feet from the 1233 feet in the northwest part of the county to 890 feet on county line south of the Toronto Dam. This high point is the high hill near the Dewey farm house in the north east corner of section 1, Twp. 23, Range 13. From this hill the watershed of South Big Creek goes to the north, while Turkey Creek goes to the south and east toward the Neosho River, and Dry Creek goes mostly south to the Verdigris River. This point is two miles east of the Greenwood County line and three miles south of the Coffey County line. The lowest point is in the Verdigris Valley.

There are three elevation or bench markers in Yates Center. The first of these was placed just in front of where the old Washington School stood. However, when a search was made for this marker in 1968 it was not found. The data on this marker showed that it was at the 1134 foot level. The next one is just to the east of the Missouri Pacific depot. This elevation is 1128. The next one is on the southwest corner of the courthouse. This marker is on a rock about a foot off the ground. This elevation is 1136 feet above sea-level.

Ten miles due west of Yates Center on the hill where the old Stoney Point School stood and where the Big Sandy schoolhouse was moved to, a bench marker is on cement porch of the schoolhouse with an elevation of 1068 feet. This is the limestone hill at the Gorman Farm.

The water tower north of Toronto is at the elevation of 1080 feet, and Main Street in Toronto runs about 1050 feet above sea-level. The normal pool elevation of the Toronto Reservoir is 902. The highest point on Duck Island in the lake is 931.

About a quarter mile east of the Big Sandy Creek on the Wilson County line is the lowest point we found recorded for Woodson County. It is where the road curves around a very low draw on the county line, and 887 feet.

About a hundred yards west of the Batesville overpass the elevation is 1064, and to the west and north at the Cedarvale Schoolhouse it is 1027 feet above sea-level.

Along US-75 four miles south of Yates Center the elevation is 1052 feet and at the corner two miles west of that it reaches 1119 feet above sea-level. Five miles north of Yates Center on US-75, it is 1108 and seven miles north at the Vernon road it is 1118 feet. At Vernon the elevation is 1045 feet.

Down the Main Street in Neosho Falls on the east side of the street by the old Congregational Church building is a bench marker showing that it is 927 feet above sea-level. Two miles south of the Falls the elevation is 979. A mile and half east of that corner on a bluff overlooking the Neosho River the elevation reaches 1002 feet. Just to the west of Piqua is a 1031 foot mark. Following down Owl Creek from just east of Yates Center to the Owl Creek bridge where the creek enters Allen County the drop is only from 995 to 950 feet.

Just east of the New York Valley Church the elevation is 995, while at the North Maple Church it is 1033 feet. At the top of the old Quackenbos Hill in section 21, Twp. 26, R. 17, the elevation is 1082 feet while a mile and half east where Scatter Creek enters Allen County it is 948, a drop of 134 feet. Back to the northwest the elevation at the Turkey Creek Church is 1091, while the top of the hill to the west is 1130.

To the north and west of the Batesville area are two mounds that are noticeable. One is Biscuit Mound in the northeast corner of section 24, Twp. 25, R. 13, that has an elevation of 1080. Three miles east and a half south of this mound is the Kingston Mound on the Irwin Tipton farm that has a height of 1130 feet above sea-level. There are higher hills in Woodson County, but they do not show up by themselves as these two do.

The majority of these survey markers and notes were made by different teams working for the Geological Survey, under the Department of Interior. Some others especially along the railroad track were made by the Coast and Geodetic Survey in 1933-34. The markers made by the Coast and Geodetic group do not have the sea-level elevation on them - just the date and a number. A file kept by the Geological Survey, has a book with the number and the elevation to correspond with it.

The writer of this article worked with a Geological team during the winter of 1966 and 1969, in Woodson, Coffey and Greenwood Counties. It was very interesting work.

## THE ENOCH FENDER FAMILY —

It was along in the later part of summer in August 1857, that a covered wagon or perhaps two wagons pulled by yokes of oxen stopped at a place on the Neosho River where a new saw mill had just been built. Two men had just finished building the mill. They were N. S. Goss and Isaac Dow, who had come there in April of 1857 and decided that this was a good place for the mill as the Neosho River had an out cropping of rock across the river made a small dam.

It was on August 16 of that year when the wagons mentioned stopped there at the Falls, as they were calling the place. With the wagons were Enoch Fender, who was about 42 years old and his wife, Sophilia, who was six years younger. Also there were seven children with them, Mary, Jacob, George, Lucinda, John and Charles who was a tiny baby. The eldest daughter was named Sarah Eva.

The family were all natives of Indiana, and had made the trip west to take part in the settling of the Territory of Kansas. The Fenders built a "crude cabin", evidently of the fresh sawed lumber from the new sawmill.

The mother Sophilia was credited as being the first woman in the new settlement of the Falls, later to become Neosho Falls. The occupation of Enoch Fender was given as a farmer as was that of his brother J. V. Fender who lived at the same household.

The crude cabin of the Fenders was on the 'north' bank of the river as was the saw mill.

Shepard Jones Williams a young man just out of medical school came to the Falls from Illinois late in 1858 or early 1859, to practice medicine. Another young doctor Allen McCartney came here about the same time, although McCartney seems to have been the first.

On July 24, 1859, Dr. S. J. Williams was married to Miss Sarah Eva Fender. They were the first couple in Woodson County that was married under the "New Marriage Act", although not the first marriage in the county.

At the outbreak of the Civil War a company was organized in fall of 1861. Enoch Fender enlisted as a private in Co. F, (Regiment Kansas Vol. Calalry. His age was given as 47. He was discharged just a year later. Also in Co. F. were the following Jacob Fender who enlisted in June 30, 1862. George Fender enlisted in same company, January 7, 1863 at the age of 18 years.

A John W. Fender, 32 years old, enlisted in September 9, 1861, and died in December, 1861 at Ft. Scott. (This is evidently the J. V. Fender we mentioned as being a brother of Enoch.

We mentioned that Dr. S. J. Williams and Sarah Eva Fender were the first couple married under the "New Marriage Act." They were married by J. A. Little, Justice of the Peace. Their daughter Lucy was the first child born in Neosho Falls.

At the outbreak of the Civil War, Dr. Williams returned to Illinois where he enlisted in one of the Illinois regiment where he served as a hospital steward until the end of the war. He returned to Neosho Falls in 1866.

Mary Jane Fender, 21, was married to J. M. Leach 1st day of September, 1860.

George W. Fender, 23 was married to Sarah Elvira Hathaway, 19, on December 3rd, 1868.

George W. Fender was again married on November 15, 1874 to Alice Diettie Smalling, age 26.

A. W. McIntire, 29, was married to Lue A. Fender, 21, on June 2, 1869. The name of this Lue A., is spelled Lucinda on the 1860 census, and in a letter from her great-granddaughter the name was spelled Lucinus.

In the general election of 1864, Enoch Fender was elected as County Assessor and in 1871 he was elected as County Coroner of Woodson County.

Enoch Fender was born in Indiana, November 27, 1815, and died, January 14, 1888. He is buried in the Cedarvale Cemetery at Neosho Falls.

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In his early days at the Falls, Dr. S. J. Williams would pack his saddle bag doctor kit with the meager supply of medicine and start out on his horse to see a sick person. Sometimes it would be almost a month before he would get back home again as people close to where he would go would hear of his visit and plead with him to go on to their place to doctor some of the family. He would come back with a very little cash but his horse would be loaded down with vegetables, meat and other things to eat or use around the house.

After the death of his wife Eva, Dr. Williams was married to Katherine Schmidt. Her mother was married to a Swilley.

The given name of Dr. Williams was a name carried on down the family line. There was a Shepard Arthur Williams and a Rueben Shepard Williams. The latter who goes by R. S. Williams now lives in California.

# Princess Chrysanthemum

## Japanese Operetta

Presented by the Yates Center High School under  
the direction of MISS GRACE LAMB, at

AUDITORIUM, FRIDAY, DECEMBER 31 - 1915

### CAST—IN ORDER OF APPEARANCE.

Top Not Court Chamberlain.....	RAY BELL
Princess Chrysanthemum.....	HENRIETTA MCCORMICK
Emperor What For Whi.....	THOMAS LEE
Du Du....	Attendants of Princess { MARIE MILLS VIDA PHILLIPS MARCELLA CHELLIS MARY HERDER
Yum Yum	
Tu Lip...	
To To....	
Saucer Eyes Wizard Cat.....	CHARLES HERDER
Brince So Tru.....	MERRILL CAMPELL
Prince So Sli.....	PERCY HAMILTON
Fairy Moonbeam.....	THELMA HALE

### ATTENDANTS

Gertrude Huff, Mary Wagner, Frances Stockebrand, Eva Lee, Elizabeth Harper, Rita Jones, Ruth Stockebrand, Lois Patterson, Robert Stockebrand, Lee Woodside, Paul Jones, Emerson Campbell, Leonard Ellis, Clifford Rosenberger, Frank Johnson, Rolland Liptrap.

### SPRITES

Donald Shenk, Paul Lamb, Roy Bell, Fred Weide, Harold Megill, Ralph Hicks.

### FAIRIES

Helen Lewis, Helen Campbell, Lois Shelton, Dessie Gillespie, Thelma Thompson, Mertie Daniels, Helen Johnson, Margaret Wilson, Margaret Lewis, Ruth Campbell, Raechel Mulrow.

ACCOMPANIST—Fay Woddell

### ORCHESTRA

Anna Drain, Estella Weigand, Ray Gault, Thelma Stockebrand, Ira Stockebrand.

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This operetta was advertised in the Woodson County Advocate of December, 1915, and presented by the Yates Center High School. It was held in what was known as the Stockebrand Auditorium and was located upstairs in the large building on the southeast corner of the square.

This auditorium was used not only for operettas, but for musical programs and also for the commencement exercises of the different schools.



## THE KINYON FAMILY OF DUCK CREEK —

In the summer of 1881, W. P. Kinyon and son Clarence came to Woodson County and purchased 40 acres in section 29, Twp. 23, Range 14. There were no improvements, not even a fence post. They had been living in Linn Co., where they came in 1879.

On March 1, 1882, Mr. and Mrs. Kinyon and four sons, Clarence, Edmund, Merton, and Wilbur M. started for Woodson County. A four horse team hitched to a wagon was the transportation. At Pleasanton, Kansas some of the heavier articles were put on the train and billed it to LeRoy. Their destination was the home of E. C. Rue and family, who were early settlers on Duck Creek. The next day the Kinyons moved into a log cabin near the Rue house.

On the next day a trip was made to LeRoy to get the articles sent by rail, and then to the saw mill to get a load of lumber. The next day a cabin 16 by 16 feet was built. The lumber was unplanned and of various widths, some as much as 18 inches wide. The roof was covered with cottonwood shingles. Duck Creek cut across the northeast corner of this forty acres, furnishing water and wood.

Remains of a couple of cabins were on this land that had been built by some early day homesteader or squatter who soon gave up and moved on or back from where they came from.

W. P. Kinyon was born in Bradford County, Penn., June 3, 1831. His parents were Pardon and Sallee (Eggleston) Kinyon. They were both natives of New York. Pardon died at the age of fifty-five, but Sallee Kinyon came to Kansas with her son, and lived for awhile at the farm on Duck Creek. They had moved to Pennsylvania, where they were farmers.

W. P. Kinyon was married to Miss Lydia M. Wheeler, Feb. 26, 1857, in Penn state. Lydia Wheeler was a native of Tioga Co., Penn. Just around four years later the Civil War broke out. W. P. enlisted in the fall of 1861 in the Tenth New York Cavalry. He was discharged before the end of the war because of disability. In 1864, W. P. and Lydia Kinyon and family moved to Southern Minnesota. Here they were exposed to great hardships of the early frontier. After almost fifteen years farming in this northern state the Kinyons moved to Kansas, first in Linn County in 1879, and around three years later to the farm on Duck Creek in Woodson County.

And 80 acres more was added to the forty that W. P. Kinyon and his sons started in to make a farm out of.

Sod breaking was a part of farming at that time. A sod plow had a long wooden beam with a sloping moldboard. Four horses were hitched abreast was one way of hitching to this plow as one horse would walk on the overturned sod pressing it down flat. Sod corn and watermelons were two of the main crops for newly broken sod.

As the elder Mr. Kinyon purchased sheep and cattle and no fence to hold them, the little boy "Bill" as Wilbur M. was more familiarly called, had to do some herding to the south and west of the homestead.

The prairie hay was plentiful and there for the taking so there was hay to put up. The Kinyons first hay implements were a mowing machine that cut a 4½ foot swath. It has a steel pitman that would break and cause a trip to the blacksmith ever so often. They had a seven foot hand dump rake pulled by one horse, that required a man to dump it.

Mr. Kinyon went to the timber, cut a small log about six or seven feet long, bored some holes in it, then cut some smaller poles and put them in the bored holes using them for teeth. Something was put up over the rear to hold the hay. A rope from each end of the log up front to a horse that was ridden by a small boy. In this manner they would pick up a bunch of hay and drag it to the stack. A man would raise the rear end up until the teeth would stick in the ground and upset the hay near the stack. Sometimes the teeth would run in the ground at the wrong time and place and upset the load where it wasn't supposed to and cause plenty of trouble. This was evidently the forerunner of the go-devil and buckrake used later.

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Clarence Kinyon was born in Bradford Co. Pennsylvania, June 24, 1858. Was six years old when with his parents moved to Minnesota. He was a young man when coming to Woodson County.

On June 14, 1891, Clarence Kinyon was married to Miss Daisy A. Bales. Her parents were John R. and Samantha Bales who were natives of Indiana and came to Woodson County in 1884. She had a brother Walter Bales.

Clarence Kinyon purchased 125 acres in the same section as his father's homestead was.

Clarence and Daisy Kinyon were the parents of two children, Keith K., Nov. 29, 1894, and Vesta U., born March 23, 1898.

Edmund C. Kinyon, was born in Pennsylvania, and with his parents and brothers went first to the farm in Minnesota and eventually came by horse and wagon to the home on Duck Creek. He seemed to be the scholarly one of the Kinyon Brothers. For some time in the 1890's he was a part owner of the Woodson County Advocate, published in Yates Center. Possibly soon after selling the Advocate to Fred Wilkinson, shortly before 1900.

Ed Kinyon went to the mining town of Grass Valley, California. Here he became connected with the newspaper there and also wrote the book "The Northern Mines", "Where swept the upper Tide of the Gold Rush."

In a forward to this book, Wayland D. Hand, Editor Journal of American Folklore, wrote, "Ed Kinyon is a newspaper man first, last and always. In his thirty-five years on the Daily Union of Grass Valley and Nevada City, California, itself an enviable record service. It has remained for a colorful newspaperman, and a local historian in his own right, Edmund Kinyon of Grass Valley to chronicle the gripping human story of the beginnings of hardrock mining in California."

This book was written in 1949, and the editor of **In The Beginning** is fortunate to have a copy of the book in his library.

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Wilbur M., more familiarly known as Bill, was born in Minnesota, Nov. 8, 1874. He was a lad of seven when he came with the family to the homestead on Duck Creek. Being the youngest of the boys he stayed on the farm with his parents.

Wilbur Kinyon was married to Miss Mary Etter. Her parents were J. E. and Mary B. Etter. They had a daughter Sybil Kinyon. Sybil grew up on the Kinyon farmstead. Later she was married to --- Young. After the death of Sybil, her stepson, Eddie Young came and made his home with Wilbur and Mary Kinyon. Eddie grew up on the farm on Duck Creek and later married Hazel Lorenze.

Wilbur Kinyon lived on the homestead on Duck Creek for over 82 years. The methods of farming and the tools used were described to the writer by Wilbur "Bill" Kinyon several years ago at this home on Duck Creek. We had many pleasant hours visiting with Bill Kinyon. Like many other well known families over the county, not a single relative is left in the county.

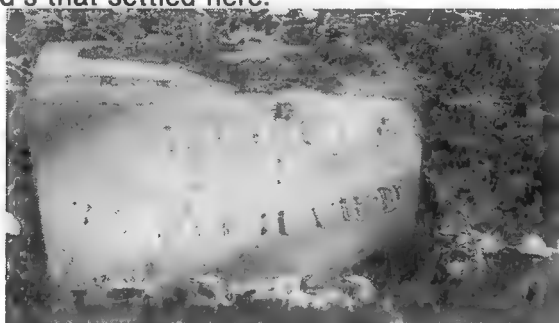
## **LONESOME GRAVES**

Two miles north and a half east of the U.S. 75 and U.S. 54 highway crossing in a fence row is one marked pioneer grave and some not marked. The one marked is of Orlean Blanchard -1859. This stone was evidently placed there in later years as it is a granite stone with the inscription done by machine.

The Blanchard families had come to Woodson County from Kirksville, MO during the latter 1850's, but did not stay. We were told that these people buried there were killed by the Indians, but nothing to verify the story.

Just before the end of the Civil War, some of the Blanchard families came back to the North Owl Creek area with a wagon train from Kirksville. Other families in this train were the Hiram Cook, Capt. John C. Allen, George and Thomas Blanchard, and a family named Murphy.

Whether Orlean Blanchard was a child or grownup we have no way of knowing, or just what relation to the other Blanchard's that settled here.



**Gravestone of Orlean Blanchard as it appears today.**

Margaret Blanchard and son George, purchased the northeast quarter of Sec. 28, Twp. 24, Range 15, from Henry Yost for \$500. This would be four miles north and a mile west of present Yates Center. An early day wagon trail had been opened up from LeRoy on the Neosho To Pleasant Grove a log town on the Verdigris River, with the trail going very close to the Blanchard home. Margaret Blanchard opened her house as an inn or hotel, furnishing meals and lodging to travelers along the trail. On April 13, 1865, George Blanchard established a postoffice in the home, giving it the name of Coloma. Mail was carried between LeRoy to Pleasant Grove by stage coach using the Blanchard home as a stopping.

Although Thomas Blanchard was elected in 1867, as both Sheriff and County Treasurer of Woodson Co., the Blanchards soon left the county completely.

**"MAN WORKS FROM SUN TO SETTING SUN —  
BUT WOMAN'S WORK IS NEVER DONE" —  
Written by Orrin C. Rose.**

In the latter 1870's my parents, with three small children, settled in Woodson County, on a quarter section of raw prairie land, on which were no fences, no buildings and on which not a foot of sod had ever been turned.

Rattlesnakes were quite plentiful in that new country and when Father found one near the house he called Mother to bring the children. They told us how dangerous the rattlesnakes were, and stirred that one to allow us to see and hear it, and we never forgot that lesson.

Remember that in the decade of the eighties about which this is written, there were no automobiles, trucks or tractors, no electric lights or power of any kind except water power and steam engines. There were no electric refrigerators, sweepers, washers or driers, televisions or radio, not even any telephones. Bread was toasted on the stove or in the oven. There were no electric irons, or mixers and for heating or cooking the fuel was wood or coal. There are hundreds of labor saving gadgets which were entirely unknown at that time.

The only known mop was a piece of cloth and a bucket of water, and the woman, on her knees scrubbing the floor.

The care of the house, and her children and the preparation of the meals caused Mother and other farm women to become methodical in their work, and in time most of them used Monday as wash day.

Tuesday for ironing - Wednesday as sewing and mending - Thursday as catch up day - Friday as baking day. Saturday as shopping day - Sunday as the day of rest, and going to Sunday School and to preaching service.

There was considerable friendly rivalry to see who could get the clothes washed and on the line first on Monday morning. The equipment was simple and much alike for all. As soon as breakfast was over the copper boiler holding nearly 10 gallons of water, was on the stove directly over the wood or coal fire, and the cast iron kettle back of the boiler with more water.

The tub made of wood staves and held together by three bands of copper, called hoops, and a wash board of wood frame and corrugated zink facing on which Mother rubbed each article of soiled clothing up and down until each piece was clean. That was before the day of the wringer with the rubber rolls, and the crank to turn the rolls and squeeze the water out of the garment.

So Mother had to squeeze the water out by twisting it. Sure hard work for a woman of 100 pounds as Mother was in those days. There as no detergent, nor even any soap in the stores.

When we had butchered a beef, the tallow was rendered by heating and used in making soap. Lye was also needed and was made by leaching wood ashes, so it was really homemade soap. When cut up the pieces were rough looking. A neighbor called the soap, "not pretty but heap strong."

Tuesday was the day the clothes were ironed. The irons were called "sad irons" and later became "flat irons". Perhaps four or five were used for each ironing day. They were heated on the top of the stove, and the table had been moved over near the stove. Mother stood between the table and stove so that she could conveniently change the irons when the one she was using cooled too much. A surprising large part of what had been washed on Monday had been sprinkled and perhaps starched ready to be ironed.

Some fifteen years later some one invented "asbestos" irons with a combined handle and cover, which was lined with asbestos, as insulation. That removed much of the discomfort Mother had experienced in ironing. It was the forerunner of the modern electric iron.

There was more varied angles to the Wednesday activities when the usual repair work was done and new garments were to be made. The housewife was also the dressmaker, making not only the outer, but the under garments as well. The material for one of Mother's dresses would be enough to make several for the modern woman. Our Mother's would have been dismayed or perhaps scandalized to see the clothing or the lack of it, worn by some modern women on the streets and in the stores today.

Some of the women had sewing machines but they were far from universal. Mother had a "Victor" sewing machine the only one of its kind I ever saw, though there may have been many others. Some of the older women of today can sew a fine evenly stitched seam, she learned from her mother.

Thursday, Mother might have been doing something she had put off for lack of time, or using a hoe, trying to keep weeds out of her garden. During the season when fruit or vegetables were available Mother was canning for winter use. Apples and peaches were made ready to dry by paring, coring and quartering. Many women dried corn as well, first cutting the kernals of the roasting ear from the cob.



About the only sources of "pin money" for the housewife was the eggs and butter she could sell. Three women in our community were good buttermakers, having learned that art in Illinois. All of them were paid a special price of 25 cents per pound throughout the year when the usual price was 15 cents per pound.

That was before centrifugal cream separators were used. The usual price paid for eggs was 5 cents to 8 cents per dozen, in the summer, and up to 15 cents in the winter months.

One of the most dreaded chores around the home was that of churning. The old churn was made of cedar staves, tongue and groove, and bound together by copper hoops. About three feet high, 12 inches wide at the bottom, tapering to 10 inches at the top. That churn had one moving part. That is, it moved when the operator kept it going up and down, up and down, up and down, times without number keeping the cream, which had been placed inside the churn, agitated until the butter began to gather into tiny grains, and then finally into lumps. Sometimes as I lifted and pushed that dash up and down I thought that finally would never come. Then Mother would put those small lumps of butter into a large wooden bowl, and with a wooden ladle work them into one large lump, and the salt she had added was evenly distributed through the mass of butter. The butter was placed in a pail and hung in the well to cool, possibly overnight. She then used a small wooden mold to divide it into pound pats, for table use or for sale.

But Friday was the day of days for the children. Thursday evening the flour was added to the yeast, (after some had been set aside for the next weeks baking), and the "sponge" made ready to "rise" during the night. The sponge was divided and made into loaves and again left to "rise". The loaves must be at just the right height before they were put into the oven. The bread for a week was all baked at this time. But it was the cookies or doughnuts or perhaps the three layer cake. It was homemade as well as home baked, with no commercial cake mix. Lucky was the boy or girl whose turn it was to clean up the cake mixing bowl. If pies had been baked and sometimes there were a half dozen or more — the left over pieces of pie crust meant individual turnovers and we loved them. Then in the fall was that delicious fruit cake, that was so rich - we wanted only a small thin slice and that big fruit cake lasted for sometime.

As the time of "pumpkin" pies came with the first frosts of autumn, the big yellow pumpkins were grown in the corn field where an occasional hill of corn was missing.

As was stated in the beginning of this story Mother was only doing what most of the farm women were doing each day, and nothing more than they were. There were no door or window screens, but flies were not so plentiful either. In some homes an older girl used a branch from a peach tree, with the leaves still on it to shake above the table to try and keep flies away from the food while the family were eating. Some tacked mosquito netting over the windows, and hung over the door for fly protection and a few years later metallic screen was available.

While hanging food in the well was the usual way to cool it, an occasional woman had a framed shelf outside an open kitchen window. When covered with cloth, kept wet, it was a convenient cooler - as long as the wind was blowing.

Nothing has been said of the usual sweeping and dusting, and making beds, but those things also must be done as well as caring for small children, and getting the ones off for school. I often wonder how our Mothers got it all done.

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#### A BIT OF HISTORY IN AN OLD SHOEBOX —

This was the heading of a clipping sent the editor of **In The Beginning** some time ago by John P. Martin, who lived here in Yates Center for several years. It had been sent to him by his mother in Crawford Co., Kansas. The shoebox had been bought by a lady, Mrs. Barbara Hutchinson at an auction in Grandview, MO. In the box were a collection of scrapbooks and mementoes of the Jacob W. Gladden family. We have added much research about the family.

The records of the Gladdens show that they were a typical American family, and reveal much American history. Jacob Washington Gladden was born in Preble County, Ohio February 25, 1828. He was one of a family of nine. He was raised on a farm, but in early life became a miller for several years.

In 1849, Gladden crossed the plains to the gold fields of California, and from there he went to South America. After an absence of four years he returned to his home and settled at Lafayette, Ind. In July 1862, he enlisted as a private in Co. G, 72nd Reg., Indiana Volunteers. His regiment was attached to the famous Wilder Brigade. Gladden was in active fighting serving a little over three years. He was promoted by grade until he was mustered out as captain of his company and returned to Lafayette, Ind.

One of the most interesting documents of the collection was an "Inspection Report", of the company which was made on August 8, 1863. The document, evidently the forerunner to the morning report of today's army reveals somewhat how the army was run in those days.

The report was signed by Captain Adam Pinkerton and listed 72 soldiers in the company including three officers Pinkerton, 1st. Lieut. Jacob W. Gladden and 1st Lt. John B. Crick, who was absent that day to attend brigade inspection.

Also listed were the names of soldiers cited for outstanding performances, both good and bad. The categories were: "3 cleanest (and dirtiest) soldiers in all respects," "3 orderliest (and cleanest (and worst) tent in company," "3 cleanest (and dirtiest) guns and equipment in company," "3 most disobedient (and obedient) men in the company", and the "3 best (and worst) conducted soldiers in all respects".

The documents contained a second report, dated July 6, 1865, which had not been completed but had been signed by a Cpt. Jacob W. Gladden, company commander.

On November 28, 1867, Jacob W. Gladden was married to Miss Cora Valodine at Dayton, Indiana. They came to Great Bend, Kansas and in 1895 they moved to Woodson County where Gladden engaged in farming.

They were the parents of four children: Lizzie M. died in 1879, age eight; Floyd V. died in 1904 age 25. Ed M. and Katie survived their parents.

Miss Kate Gladden was the last of this family to live in Yates Center, so we will tell more about her. She was born in Great Bend, Kansas and was about ten years old when the family moved to Yates Center. She was 20 years old when her mother died in 1904. From then on Kate made a home for her father and brother.

Edward married ----, who died when her baby girl was only two weeks old. Kate became a second mother to her niece, Leota Gladden.

Kate Gladden was a faithful member of the Presbyterian Church in Yates Center. She passed away in 1953 and is buried in Yates Center by her brother Ed.

# **PATRONS OF WOODSON COUNTY HISTORICAL QUARTERLY**

Brown's Western Auto	Kimbell Ranch - Ed Kimbell
Milton & Virginia Schornick	Daylight Donut Shop
Kenneth & Barbara Stockebrand	Edwin H. Bideau Associated
John V. Glades Agency	Agency, Chanute
Street Abstract Co. Inc.	First National Bank, Toronto
State Exchange Bank	Blackjack Cattle Co., Inc.
Self Service Grocery	Yates Center Elevator
Krueger's Variety & Dry Goods	Jasper's Shopping Spot
HiWay Food Basket	Bill Taylor-Gen. Agent
Piqua Farmers Co-op	Woodson Co. Farm Bureau
Gaulding Oil Co.	Atkin Clinic
Donald E. Ward	Daly Western Supply
Morton Equipment Co.	Jaynes Ins. Agency
Swope & Son Implement Co.	Thomas Wilson
Superior Bldg. & Supply, Inc.	Linde Barber Shop
Campbell Plumbing & Electric	House of Fabrics
Clyde Hill	Milton & Marcella Wrampe
Cantrell Pontiac-Buick	E.E.Light
Pringle Ranch-J.W. &	Atkin Rexall Pharmacy
J. Richard Pringle	Campbell Funeral Home
Roger Bros. Garage	Mr. and Mrs. Glen Baker
Artex Manufacturing Co.	Piqua State Bank
J. C. Schnell	Thomas Wilson
Gambles Hardware & Home	Jerry's Oil Co.
Furnishings	Rex Butler, Nashville, TN
Glen Shaw	Al's Jewelry
Herring Hardware & Supply	Edwin G. Reid, St. Louis, MO
Wilma Mark	

